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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/814,303	03/21/2001	Garth F. Schmeling	10002015-1	4824

7590 08/10/2004

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EXAMINER

BILGRAMI, ASGHAR H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2143

DATE MAILED: 08/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/814,303

Applicant(s)

SCHMELING, GARTH F.

Examiner

Asghar Bilgrami

Art Unit

2143

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11-18, 20-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable over Hattori (U.S.6,094,674).

As per claim 1, 15 & 24 Hattori disclosed a confederacy comprising: a network; a plurality of devices coupled via said network, at least one of said devices having a resource (col.3, lines 36-64); and means for automatically effecting communication with respect to said resource between said device having said resource and at least one other of said devices coupled via said network (col.3, lines 25-35 & col.10, lines 4-16).

2. As per claims 2 & 16 Hattori disclosed the invention of Claim 1 wherein said network is an intranet (col.19, lines 38-42).

3. As per claims 4, 5, 6, 7 & 17 Hattori disclosed means for automatically effecting communication being an agent residing on at least one of said devices (col.2, lines 59-61); wherein said agent resides on said device having said resource; further including an agent running on each device on said network; wherein each agent running on each of said devices on said network is implemented in software (col.6, lines 1-6 & col.10, lines 4-16).

Art Unit: 2143

4. As per claims 8, 9 & 18 Hattori disclosed the invention of Claim 7 wherein said agents include code for establishing and joining the said confederacy (col.13, lines 5-10 & col.14, lines 50-59).
5. As per claims 11 & 20 Hattori disclosed the invention of Claim 8 wherein at least one device includes memory for caching an object value from a device in said confederacy (col.12, 36-45).
6. As per claims 12 & 21 Hattori disclosed the invention of Claim 8 wherein at least one of said agents includes code for allowing each member to act as a portal (col.13, lines 22-31).
7. As per claims 13 & 22 Hattori disclosed the invention of Claim 8 wherein said agents include code for monitoring changes at said other devices in said confederacy (col.6, lines 1-14).
8. As per claims 14 & 23 Hattori disclosed the invention of Claim 8 wherein said agent includes code for verifying that a member device is active and in the confederacy (col.6, lines 15-22).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 3, 10 & 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hattori (U.S. 6,094,674) in view of Bendinelli (U.S. 6,061,719).

Art Unit: 2143

As per claims 3, 10 & 19 Hattori disclosed the invention of claim 1 {see 102(b) rejection}. In the same field of endeavor Hattori did not explicitly disclose wherein said resource is embedded web content.

However Bendinelli disclosed wherein said resource is embedded web content (col.1, lines 45-67 & col.2, lines 1-5).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time this invention was made to provide web content to be available to the networked devices in order to give users more versatility , added features and as a result enrich their network experience.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Sopko (U.S. 6,003,068) discloses method and apparatus for portably providing shared removable resources to a plurality of computing devices.

Russell (U.S. 5,841,991) discloses in an interactive network board, a method and apparatus for storing a media access control address in a remotely alterable memory.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Asghar Bilgrami whose telephone number is 703-305-4623. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:00-5:00PM.

Art Unit: 2143

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wiley can be reached on 703-308-5221. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Asghar Bilgrami
Examiner
Art Unit 2143



DAVID WILEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100